

NOT YET  
APPROVED

**WALLINGFORD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROJECT  
POLICY BOARD**

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Policy Board held on January 14, 2015  
at Wallingford Town Hall**

A Special Meeting of the Policy Board of the Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project was held at the Wallingford Town Hall on January 14, 2015. Present at the meeting were Mayor William Dickinson of Wallingford; Michael Milone, Cheshire Town Manager; Mayor Scott Jackson of Hamden (arrived at 2:10 p.m.); Pam Roach, Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator of Hamden; and Michael Freda, First Selectman of North Haven.

Others in attendance were: Derek Grasso of Covanta; Doreen Zaback, Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project Coordinator; and Wallingford residents Bob Gross and Larry Morgenstein. Joe Vitale of Covanta arrived at 2:15 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairman Milone.

- I. Approval of July 16, 2014 WRSWP Meeting Minutes  
Approval of July 31, 2014 WRSWP Special Meeting Minutes  
Approval of September 5, 2014 WRSWP Special Meeting Minutes  
Approval of October 6, 2014 WRSWP Special Meeting Minutes

**Mayor Dickinson motioned to collectively accept the minutes from the above-referenced meetings; Mr. Freda seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

- I. **Project Update**

- A. ***Report on Waste Volumes and Plant Operations***

- Ms. Zaback distributed the quarterly tonnage report (see Attachment 1). Since no Covanta staff was present to review the report, Ms. Zaback briefly commented on tonnages collected during the last quarter. There was a brief discussion on the lack of ton-for-ton correlation between an increase in recyclables collected and a decrease in MSW collected. Mr. Milone commented that since Cheshire moved to an automated single-stream system two years ago, they have not been able to discern any particular trends.

- B. ***Enforcement Activities***

- Nothing to report.

- C. ***Environmental***

- Nothing to report.

- D. ***Update of Minor Permit Modification Application/Operation of Transfer Station***

- Mr. Grasso reported that the Minor Modification Amendment application went out for public notice on December 29, 2014. There is a 30-day public comment period so comments will close the end of January. After that it depends on what type and how many comments CT DEEP receives as to when the final permit will be issued. Mr. Grasso said he would say that in the best case, the permit would be issued two weeks after that, but more realistically, the permit will be issued the end of February.

Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Policy Board Meeting, 01/14/15

Mr. Milone asked about the Covanta Contract Amendment with the towns, in that we will have 12 months of the lower rate from the time that CT DEEP approves the permit and then we start to go through the negotiation for the reset on July 1. Ms. Zaback said in actuality we are not doing the reset, we have agreed to keep the tip fee at \$65.00 for the first reset period and it will increase annually according to the CPI. Mr. Milone agreed and asked if the tip fee will increase according to the CPI in July 2016. Ms. Zaback said that was correct. Mr. Milone asked if the tip fee would go up twelve months after the initiation of the new rate. Ms. Zaback said it would go up in July 2016.

## **II. Legislative Overview**

### **A. *Expected Product Stewardship Legislation – batteries, carpet, tires***

Ms. Zaback said she did not expect much major solid waste legislation being proposed this year. We might expect to see some product stewardship legislation on tires as a bill was proposed yesterday and CT DEEP is hosting a two-day Tire Product Stewardship conference next week. This conference is for people all over the country so we might see some legislative language coming out of that conference.

Earlier in the year, CT DEEP did host Product Stewardship conferences on batteries and carpet. Ms. Zaback said she had heard that the battery program is not moving forward as manufacturers do not want to become involved in the program. With regard to carpet, she hasn't heard much about that other than that due to the complex and variable makeup of carpet, segregation of different types of carpet would be very difficult.

Mr. Milone asked about the likelihood of tire product stewardship legislation. Ms. Zaback said that would probably be more likely, especially in light of the fact the tire recycling facility in Sterling, CT closed about a year ago and it has created a tire disposal problem for a number of towns.

## **III. Solid Waste Management Best Practices/Emerging Trends**

### **A. *New Covanta Projects***

Ms. Zaback stated that Covanta was working on a new project with the City of Indianapolis to build a facility that will allow for the collection of MSW and recyclables all in one container and have the materials then separated at the plant. This type of facility was formerly called a "dirty MRF". There has been a lot of controversy with this type of facility with people in the recycling side of the business don't believe recyclables can be effectively separated from the trash, although people on the waste side say that sorting and separation technology has improved tremendously and this type of facility is feasible. In any case, Covanta has promised the City of Indianapolis that their recycling rate will increase from the current 10% to about 18% once the new facility is operating. Ms. Zaback added that the City of Houston was also looking at a facility like this, but they haven't made a final decision yet.

At this point Joe Vitale arrived and Ms. Zaback asked him to speak to the upper management change recently announced by Covanta. Mr. Vitale stated that long-time



Covanta president and CEO Tony Orlando was stepping down and the new CEO is Steve Jones from Air Products. The transition is happening, but there is not much to talk about; Mr. Jones is visiting facilities in New England this week. Mr. Vitale did say that Mr. Orlando was staying on as a member of the Board of Directors. The transition is expected to be fairly smooth.

Mr. Freda asked what happened to Steve Diaz. Mr. Vitale said that Steve has been promoted; he is now in charge of e-waste throughout the country for Covanta.

Mr. Vitale said that regarding the transition at the Wallingford plant, they were still waiting to hear from CT DEEP on final approval of the permit. Covanta anticipates getting that sometime in February and then will start to decommission the boilers over a 3-4 week period. So as they start decommissioning the boilers they will start transferring waste out. Ms. Zaback asked what was meant by decommissioning the boilers. Mr. Vitale said they will take the boilers down, start cleaning them out and shutting them down, but not removing them. Mr. Milone asked if there was a formal communication to the haulers. Mr. Vitale said there hasn't been because as of now, there hasn't been any change. Mr. Milone said then that there really won't be any notice to them other than what they have read in the newspapers or heard about from Policy Board members. Mr. Vitale said that he has had conversations with haulers. Once Covanta gets closer to the transition there may be some scaling issues and once they work through those issues, then they will communicate with haulers. Mr. Vitale said that they are running the plant with pretty low volumes and they take down boilers depending on the volume of MSW they receive.

## **V. Reserves**

### **A. *WRSWP Interlocal Reserve Update***

#### **1. Balance of Reserve Account**

Ms. Zaback reported that the balance in the reserve account was \$2,009,678.35 as of December 31, 2014 (see Attachment 2). Mayor Jackson asked about an added item the "deferred revenue" item on the spreadsheet. Ms. Zaback said she was unsure and the assistant comptroller was not in today to answer her question.

Mr. Freda asked if we anticipated any more distribution of reserves from MIRA (formerly CRRA). Ms. Zaback said no, after receiving the Transfer Act Escrow fund distribution in December, we have pretty much received all the Wallingford Project funds.

Mr. Milone had another comment about the reserve account spreadsheet specifically that the fund balance is identified as of June 30, 2015 and he doesn't know if that is really meant to be as of Dec. 31, 2014. Ms. Zaback said that the \$2,009,678.35 is the current balance. Mr. Milone asked Ms. Zaback to get an answer to Mayor Jackson's question. Mayor Dickinson said he would now go to see if the comptroller was in to answer the question. Mayor Dickinson reported

that the spreadsheet shows GASB accounting, but the amount shown, \$1,466,718.85, is what is owed to other towns [Cheshire, Hamden, Meriden and North Haven]. Mayor Dickinson also confirmed that the balance shown on the spreadsheet is the balance as of Dec. 31, 2014. Mayor Jackson asked if these funds were in a STIF account. Ms. Zaback said, yes, she thought they were. Mayor Jackson asked if perhaps we could try to achieve higher interest rates by splitting the funds in half and try to achieve some rate in the 3% to 4% range. There was some discussion regarding fund investment vehicles used and of whether to have the Wallingford comptroller attend a meeting to discuss further. Mr. Milone asked Ms. Zaback to have the Wallingford comptroller report to the Policy Board in letter format how the funds are now invested.

Bob Gross asked what the purpose of the funds going forward was. Mr. Milone said it was a reserve fund for the five member towns to use for emergencies such as tip fee stabilization, any number of things, but we haven't seen it grow much in 3.5 years and we are not contributing to it in the near future, so the only growth it's going to see is through investment return. Mr. Gross said since the towns can pretty much figure out what the tip fees are going to be as they increase according to CPI, what's the point of leaving it there, why not return the funds to the towns. Mayor Dickinson said that we are only looking at five years of the project that we know for sure and after that, things are open for question about what the future holds and that's where having the ability to plan and have the money to do what is necessary is important. Mr. Milone added that a lot of this was driven by the fact that for 20 years we had a really significant reserve to protect us and the Policy Board got very accustomed to having a fallback to protect us; as long as we had the arrangement with CRRA, we could sort of control the size of that reserve by controlling the tip fee. Mr. Milone said that is really out of our control now, so one of the things we had available we don't have now; we are at the mercy of Covanta. So we can't do anything to the investment reserve other than create it and hope that the investment return is significant. Mr. Milone added that we do have the provision of adding a surcharge on the tip fee, but we certainly don't want to do that. In essence, the Policy Board wants to be cautious and if the funds get depleted there is really no way to build it back up substantially other than to go to the five communities and ask each to re-up to get it back to a certain amount. Mr. Gross said he saw the point about tip fee stabilization for the other towns, but in Wallingford, we have subscription service so tip fee is at market rate. Mr. Milone said the funds were also to be used for any kind recycling efforts or things we collectively needed to get done and added that he would want to see where the industry was going over the next couple of years before disbursing the fund.



2. **Status of Payment of 2013 and 2014 Annual Stack Test Invoices**

Ms. Zaback said the towns have never been invoiced for the stack tests and she didn't know where that stands. Mr. Vitale said he would look into the matter. Ms. Zaback said Cheryl Thibeault did provide some preliminary material last year, but there was never any resolution. Mr. Vitale said he would follow up with Janet Fantano.

Mr. Milone asked how much we have left to pay for the stack testing. Ms. Zaback said the money will come out of the reserve fund and she believed that the material Ms. Thibeault provided indicated the towns collectively were responsible for about \$37,000-\$40,000 and she would assume that the 2014 charge would be similar. So in total the towns could owe about \$80,000. Mr. Grasso mentioned that the plant will not be stack testing in 2015 or any year where the plant is not operating as a waste-to-energy plant.

VI. **Project Coordinator Report**

A. ***Discussion and Approval of 2015 Policy Board Meeting Schedule***

**A motion to approve the 2015 Policy Board Meeting Schedule (Attachment 3) was made by Mayor Jackson; Mr. Freda seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

B. ***Transfer Act Escrow Fund Update***

Ms. Zaback said each town should have received a check from MIRA (formerly CRRA) in December. All Policy Board members indicated that they had received the checks. Ms. Zaback indicated that there are no significant remaining funds to be distributed to the Wallingford Project Towns.

C. ***Update on Mattress Stewardship Program-plans for member towns?***

Ms. Zaback said last week CT DEEP approved the program provided by the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC). Starting May 1, 2015 any mattress sold in the state of CT will be assessed a \$9.00 recycling fee. Soon after that there will be a program in place for the return of mattresses. MRC does have a coordinator working in the state to provide information to municipalities that are interested in participating in the program. The program will provide a collection container to municipalities or retail stores and will pay for the cost of transportation and recycling at one of two recycling facilities located in CT. This program does involve some oversight by transfer station staff as they will be required to inspect for bed bugs and ensure that mattresses are efficiently stacked in the containers. Ms. Zaback said there are haulers set up for certain regions and all of the WRSWP towns would work with CWPM for the transport of mattresses to the recycling facility located in East Hartford. Ms. Zaback said she has contacted the Public Works Director or Recycling Director in each of the towns and only Hamden will be meeting with the MRC coordinator to learn more about the program. Ms. Roach confirmed that they are meeting with MRC next week to determine what is involved.

Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Policy Board Meeting, 01/14/15

Mr. Milone asked when they will start the program; Ms. Zaback said July 1. Ms. Zaback added that she has talked with Mark Bobman of BRRFOC about the program and it appears that none of the Bristol program towns are participating at this point. Ms. Zaback said she spoke with the MRC coordinator and asked if retailers wanted containers at their sites and was told that very few retailers were interested as they already have other programs in place.

**D. Organic Recycling Facilities Update**

Ms. Zaback said there are two facilities proposed in Southington; one is a Covanta facility and the other is owned by Supreme Forests. Both facilities have been approved by the Town of Southington, but the status with CT DEEP is uncertain. Mr. Vitale said that Covanta has just renegotiated their partnership with Turning Earth on the development of this facility. In any case, at the annual CRC meeting in December 2014 the main focus of the meeting was organic recycling. The state is very much interested in having more facilities developed. Mr. Vitale said he thought the SCRRA group was pursuing the idea of developing a facility.

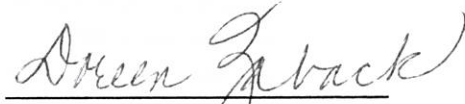
Ms. Zaback said the important piece of information from this is that when the facilities in Southington do come online, some entities in Cheshire, Meriden and Wallingford would be affected since the statute is written so that certain businesses located within 20 miles of the organic recycling facility will be required to send source separated organics to that facility.

**VIII. Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on April 15, 2015.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

  
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Doreen Zaback  
January 20, 2015

**WALLINGFORD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROJECT**  
**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**  
**JANUARY 14, 2015**  
**2:00 P.M.**  
**WALLINGFORD TOWN HALL, ROOM 315**

- I. Approval of July 16, 2014 WRSWP Meeting Minutes

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  - Approval of July 31, 2014 WRSWP Special Meeting Minutes
  - Approval of September 5, 2014 WRSWP Special Meeting Minutes
  - Approval of October 6, 2014 WRSWP Special Meeting Minutes
- II. Project Update
  - A. *Report on Waste Volumes and Plant Operations*
  - B. *Enforcement Activities*
  - C. *Environmental*
  - D. *Update of Minor Permit Modification Application/Operation of Transfer Station*
- III. Legislative Overview
  - A. *Expected Product Stewardship Legislation – batteries, carpet, tires*
- IV. Solid Waste Management Best Practices/Emerging Trends
  - A. *New Covanta Projects*
- V. Reserves
  - A. *WRSWP Interlocal Reserve Update*
    - 1. *Balance of Reserve Account*
    - 2. *Status of Payment of 2013 and 2014 Annual Stack Test Invoices*
- VI. Project Coordinator Report
  - A. *Discussion and Approval of 2015 Policy Board Meeting Schedule*
  - B. *Transfer Act Escrow Fund Update*
  - C. *Update on Mattress Stewardship Program-plans for member towns?*
  - D. *Organic Recycling Facilities Update*
- VII. Next Meeting – April 15, 2015
- VIII. Adjourn



MSW	Actual				Prior				Variance Q313 to Q314	% Variance Q313 to Q314	2014-15		2013-14		% Variance YTD
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr	Oct	Nov	Dec	Qtr			YTD	YTD			
Meriden Residential	1,113.37	1,062.61	1,314.07	3,490.05	1,083.39	888.35	760.43	2,732.17	757.88	27.74%	7,071.71	6,248.73	13.17%		
Meriden Commercial	1,942.97	1,407.56	1,612.10	4,962.63	1,496.35	1,294.62	1,663.34	4,454.31	508.32	11.41%	8,733.21	9,209.92	-5.18%		
Meriden Subtotal	3,056.34	2,470.17	2,926.17	8,452.68	2,579.74	2,182.97	2,423.77	7,186.48	1,266.20	17.62%	15,804.94	15,458.65	2.24%		
Wallingford Residential	697.16	691.44	728.50	2,117.10	999.97	754.32	807.86	2,562.15	(445.05)	-17.37%	4,350.65	5,661.15	-23.15%		
Wallingford Commercial	1,546.19	1,442.36	1,588.00	4,576.55	1,609.50	1,276.38	1,500.35	4,386.23	190.32	4.34%	8,824.96	9,739.09	-9.39%		
Wallingford Subtotal	2,243.35	2,133.80	2,316.50	6,693.65	2,609.47	2,030.70	2,308.21	6,948.38	(254.73)	-3.67%	13,175.61	15,400.24	-14.45%		
Cheshire Residential	633.01	542.11	667.57	1,842.69	613.32	555.39	643.07	1,811.78	30.91	1.71%	3,603.03	3,669.09	-1.80%		
Cheshire Commercial	659.66	398.92	535.81	1,594.39	835.79	571.44	819.36	2,226.59	(632.20)	-28.39%	3,342.53	4,831.98	-30.82%		
Cheshire Subtotal	1,292.67	941.03	1,203.38	3,437.08	1,449.11	1,126.83	1,462.43	4,038.37	(601.29)	-14.89%	6,945.56	8,501.07	-18.30%		
Hamden Residential	1,191.31	961.61	1,194.13	3,347.05	1,354.11	1,146.89	1,269.23	3,770.23	(423.18)	-11.22%	6,542.70	7,270.46	-10.01%		
Hamden Commercial	1,222.35	967.11	724.32	2,913.78	1,087.98	895.30	1,082.21	3,065.49	(151.71)	-4.95%	5,957.48	7,685.82	-22.49%		
Hamden Subtotal	2,413.66	1,928.72	1,918.45	6,260.83	2,442.09	2,042.19	2,351.44	6,835.72	(574.89)	-8.41%	12,500.18	14,956.28	-16.42%		
North Haven Residential	746.96	637.98	755.95	2,140.89	781.79	713.93	805.44	2,301.16	(160.27)	-6.96%	4,486.39	4,993.19	-10.15%		
North Haven Commercial	443.08	317.91	403.40	1,164.39	477.65	466.44	431.59	1,375.68	(211.29)	-15.36%	2,523.75	3,222.45	-21.68%		
North Haven Subtotal	1,190.04	955.89	1,159.35	3,305.28	1,259.44	1,180.37	1,237.03	3,676.84	(371.56)	-10.11%	7,010.14	8,215.64	-14.67%		
Madison/Guilford	-	-	-	-	-	16.70	141.76	158.46	(158.46)	-100.00%	120.85	725.81	-83.35%		
Newington	-	-	11.94	11.94	877.91	772.77	824.24	2,474.92	(2,462.98)	-99.52%	1,714.77	5,166.52	-66.81%		
Southbury	91.70	-	149.36	241.06	510.15	368.82	531.10	1,410.07	(1,169.01)	-82.90%	298.56	2,990.54	-90.02%		
Total Other Municipalities	91.70	-	161.30	253.00	1,368.06	1,158.29	1,497.10	4,003.45	(3,790.45)	-93.74%	2,134.18	8,882.87	-75.97%		
Special Waste	2.88	4.64	0.56	8.08	31.04	20.31	11.81	63.16	(55.08)	-87.21%	16.93	231.22	-92.68%		
Spot	130.65	-	507.08	637.73	307.23	711.09	1,016.77	2,035.09	(1,397.36)	-68.66%	58,230.03	3,020.31	-100.00%		
Total Waste Received	10,421.29	8,434.25	10,192.79	29,048.33	12,066.18	10,452.75	12,308.56	34,827.49	(5,779.16)	-16.59%	74,666.28	6,197.63	-100.00%		
LESS: MSW Bypassed	-	-	-	-	1,260.43	683.15	-	1,943.58	(1,943.58)	-100.00%	-	6,197.63	-100.00%		
LESS: Non-Processible Bypassed	8.29	7.06	21.50	36.85	8.86	9.43	8.01	26.30	10.55	40.11%	91.86	72.28	27.09%		
Net Tons	10,413.00	8,427.19	10,171.29	29,011.48	10,796.89	9,760.17	12,300.55	32,857.61	(3,846.13)	-11.71%	58,138.17	68,396.37	-15.00%		
Megawatt Hours Generated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sold	4,749.04	4,506.87	4,382.57	13,638.48	5,861.92	5,056.60	5,074.30	15,992.82	(2,354.34)	-14.72%	28,069.81	33,221.38	-15.51%		
Average Rate	3,309.23	3,151.70	3,014.22	9,475.15	4,436.51	3,784.35	3,713.12	11,933.98	(2,458.83)	-20.60%	19,546.51	24,976.31	-21.74%		
	49.50	49.50	49.50		49.50	49.50	49.50								



Town of Wallingford  
Solid Waste Reserve Fund - 650  
June 30, 2015

	Balance 7/1/14	Percent	July Interest 2014	August Interest 2014	September Interest 2014	October Interest 2014	November Interest 2014	December Interest 2014	January Interest 2015
Cheshire	269,359.54	13.41	34.31	32.10	35.43	34.32	31.01	36.55	
Meriden	445,132.60	22.16	56.70	53.04	58.54	56.72	51.24	60.39	
North Haven	288,456.13	14.36	36.74	34.37	37.93	36.75	33.20	39.14	
Wallingford	542,549.21	27.01	69.10	64.66	71.35	69.14	62.44	73.60	
Hamden	462,661.79	23.06	59.00	55.20	60.92	59.02	53.32	62.85	
Total	2,008,159.27	100.00	255.85	239.37	264.17	255.95	231.21	272.53	-
Original Contribution									
Cheshire	268,200.00	13.41							
Meriden	443,200.00	22.16							
North Haven	287,200.00	14.36							
Wallingford	540,200.00	27.01							
Hamden	461,200.00	23.06							
Total	2,000,000.00	100.00							





# **WALLINGFORD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROJECT**

**Serving Cheshire, Hamden, Meriden, North Haven and Wallingford**

c/o Town of Wallingford, 45 South Main St., Wallingford, CT 06492

Tel: 203-294-2061; Fax: 203-294-2073; e-mail: [solidwaste@wallingfordct.gov](mailto:solidwaste@wallingfordct.gov)

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## **2015 POLICY BOARD REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE- draft**

**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE OF THE POLICY BOARD  
ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE  
DISPOSAL AGREEMENT with COVANTA PROJECTS OF  
WALLINGFORD, L.P.**

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Regular meetings of the Policy Board will be held during 2015 at 9 a.m. at the Wallingford Town Hall, 45 South Main Street, Wallingford, CT in Room 315 on the following dates:

April 15, 2015

July 15, 2015

October 14, 2015

